

Group A *Streptococcus pyogenes* Pharyngitis Guidelines

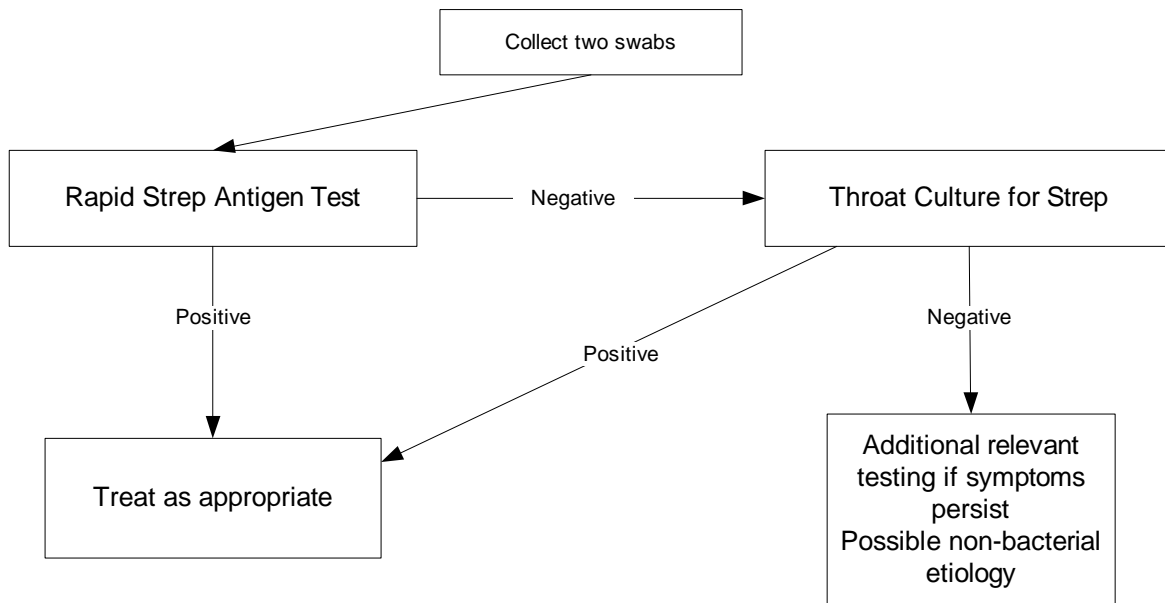
Washington State Clinical Laboratory Advisory Council
October 2002

FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY

The individual clinician is in the best position to determine which tests are most appropriate for a particular patient.

Patient Characteristics:

Sudden onset of sore throat
Tonsillitis with or without exudate
Tender anterior cervical adenopathy
History of fever, headache and/or abdominal pain



NOTES:

1. Routine culturing for asymptomatic family members are not indicated unless:
 - a. History of Rheumatic Fever;
 - b. "Ping Pong" spread of Group A Strep has been occurring within the family.
2. Other organisms such as Group C Strep, Group G Strep, and *Arachanobacterim haemolyticum* also can cause acute bacterial pharyngitis and are also beta hemolytic.

REFERENCES:

- 1) Diagnosis & Management of Group A Streptococcal Practice Guideline. Clinical Infectious Disease 1997 Spt 27(3): 574-83.
- 2) Acute Pharyngitis. Institute for Clinical Systems Improvement; 2000 June 24.
- 3) Pharyngitis (in adults and children). University of Michigan Health System: 1996 8p.
- 4) Acute Pharyngitis, Bisno, A.L., 2001 NETM, 344(3):205-11.